

## **§ 1.89**

the NEPA process, should contact the Assistant General Counsel for Litigation and Environmental Policy.

### **§ 1.89 Effect on prior actions.**

It is the policy of the Commission to apply these procedures to the fullest extent possible to proceedings which are already in progress.

## **Subpart J—Economic Surveys, Investigations and Reports**

### **§ 1.91 Authority and purpose.**

General and special economic surveys, investigations, and reports are made by the Bureau of Economics under the authority of the various laws which the Federal Trade Commission administers. The Commission may in any such survey or investigation invoke any or all of the compulsory processes authorized by law.

[32 FR 8444, June 13, 1967. Redesignated at 40 FR 15233, Apr. 4, 1975]

## **Subpart K—Penalties for Violation of Appliance Labeling Rules**

SOURCE: 45 FR 67318, Oct. 10, 1980, unless otherwise noted.

### **§ 1.92 Scope.**

The rules in this subpart apply to and govern proceedings for the assessment of civil penalties for the violation of section 332 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 U.S.C. 6302, and the Commission's Rules on Labeling and Advertising of Consumer Appliances, 16 CFR part 305, promulgated under sections 324 and 326 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 U.S.C. 6294 and 6296.

### **§ 1.93 Notice of proposed penalty.**

(a) *Notice.* Before issuing an order assessing a civil penalty under this subpart against any person, the Commission shall provide to such person notice of the proposed penalty. This notice shall:

(1) Inform such person of the opportunity to elect in writing within 30 days of receipt of the notice of proposed penalty to have procedures of § 1.95 (in lieu of those of § 1.94) apply with respect to such assessment; and

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(2) Include a copy of a proposed complaint conforming to the provision of § 3.11(b) (1) and (2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice, or a statement of the material facts constituting the alleged violation and the legal basis for the proposed penalty; and

(3) Include the amount of the proposed penalty; and

(4) Include a statement of the procedural rules that the Commission will follow if respondent elects to proceed under § 1.94 unless the Commission chooses to follow subparts B, C, D, E, and F of part 3 of this chapter.

(b) *Election.* Within 30 days of receipt of the notice of proposed penalty, the respondent shall, if it wishes to elect to have the procedures of § 1.95 apply, notify the Commission of the election in writing. The notification, to be filed in accordance with § 4.2 of this chapter, may include any factual or legal reasons for which the proposed assessment order should not issue, should be reduced in amount, or should otherwise be modified.

### **§ 1.94 Commission proceeding to assess civil penalty.**

If the respondent fails to elect to have the procedures of § 1.95 apply, the Commission shall determine whether to issue a complaint and thereby commence an adjudicative proceeding in conformance with section 333(d)(2)(A) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 U.S.C. 6303(d)(2)(A). If the Commission votes to issue a complaint, the proceeding shall be conducted in accordance with subparts B, C, D, E and F of part 3 of this chapter, unless otherwise ordered in the notice of proposed penalty. In assessing a penalty, the Commission shall take into account the factors listed in § 1.97.

### **§ 1.95 Procedures upon election.**

(a) After receipt of the notification of election to apply the procedures of this section pursuant to § 1.93, the Commission shall promptly assess such penalty as it deems appropriate, in accordance with § 1.97.

(b) If the civil penalty has not been paid within 60 calendar days after the assessment order has been issued under paragraph (a) of this section, the General Counsel, unless otherwise directed,

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shall institute an action in the appropriate district court of the United States for an order enforcing the assessment of the civil penalty.

(c) Any election to have this section apply may not be revoked except with the consent of the Commission.

### § 1.96 Compromise of penalty.

The Commission may compromise any penalty or proposed penalty at any time, with leave of court when necessary, taking into account the nature and degree of violation and the impact of a penalty upon a particular respondent.

### § 1.97 Amount of penalty.

All penalties assessed under this subchapter shall be in the amount per violation as described in section 333(a) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 U.S.C. 6303(a), adjusted for inflation pursuant to § 1.98, unless the Commission otherwise directs. In considering the amount of penalty, the Commission shall take into account:

- (a) Respondent's size and ability to pay;
- (b) Respondent's good faith;
- (c) Any history of previous violations;
- (d) The deterrent effect of the penalty action;
- (e) The length of time involved before the Commission was made aware of the violation;
- (f) The gravity of the violation, including the amount of harm to consumers and the public caused by the violation; and
- (g) Such other matters as justice may require.

[32 FR 8444, June 13, 1967, as amended at 61 FR 54548, Oct. 21, 1996]

## Subpart L—Civil Penalty Adjustments Under the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, as Amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996

AUTHORITY: 28 U.S.C. 2461 note.

SOURCE: 61 FR 54549, Oct. 21, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

### § 1.98 Adjustment of civil monetary penalty amounts.

This section makes inflation adjustments in the dollar amounts of civil monetary penalties provided by law within the Commission's jurisdiction. The following civil penalty amounts apply to violations occurring after November 20, 2000:

- (a) Section 7A(g)(1) of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. 18a(g)(1)—\$11,000;
- (b) Section 11(l) of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. 21(l)—\$6,500;
- (c) Section 5(l) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 45(l)—\$11,000;
- (d) Section 5(m)(1)(A) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 45(m)(1)(A)—\$11,000;
- (e) Section 5(m)(1)(B) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 45(m)(1)(B)—\$11,000;
- (f) Section 10 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 50—\$110;
- (g) Section 5 of the Webb-Pomerene (Export Trade) Act, 15 U.S.C. 65—\$110;
- (h) Section 6(b) of the Wool Products Labeling Act, 15 U.S.C. 68d(b)—\$110;
- (i) Section 3(e) of the Fur Products Labeling Act, 15 U.S.C. 69a(e)—\$110;
- (j) Section 8(d)(2) of the Fur Products Labeling Act, 15 U.S.C. 69f(d)(2)—\$110;
- (k) Section 333(a) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 U.S.C. 6303(a)—\$110;
- (l) Sections 525(a) and (b) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 U.S.C. 6395(a) and (b), respectively—\$6,500 and \$11,000, respectively; and
- (m) Civil monetary penalties authorized by reference to the Federal Trade Commission Act under any other provision of law within the jurisdiction of the Commission—refer to the amounts set forth in paragraphs (c), (d), (e) and (f) of this section, as applicable.

[65 FR 69666, Nov. 20, 2000, as amended at 69 FR 76612, Dec. 22, 2004]

## Subpart M—Submissions Under the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 801–804.